

THE INSURRECTION OF BUTLER'S SPEECH—

One of the most remarkable features of

Butler's opening speech is its insolence.

Insolence is more remarkable than its

ability. We do not mean its insolence to

the President, for that everybody expected

in that. It is too characteristic to excite

notice. But the insolence of the speech

does not stop at the President; it extends

to his leading counsel, to particular mem-

bers of the Senate, to the Senate as a

body, and, finally, to the Chief Justice

himself, taking in its sweep respondent,

counsel, court, President, officer, and all.

It is a rare piece of insolence.

Referring to an opinion of Attorney-

General Wirt, Butler makes this ding-dong

Mr. Stanbery, who, it is well known, re-

signed the Attorney-Generalship to act as

the President's counsel in the pending

trial:

But this was before any attempt had

been made by any President to arrogate to

himself the official prerogative for the pur-

pose of party or personal aggrandizement,

which gives the only value to this opinion

as an authority. Since the Chief Justice's

office has become a political one, I shall

not trouble the Senate with citing or

examining the opinions of magistrates.

Dismissing the right of challenge in the

case of impeachment, and alluding to the

forbearance of Judge Chase in the case of

his own impeachment, Butler flings out

this gibe at the Senators who before the or-

ganization of the present court ventured

to question the right of Senator Wade to

sit on the trial:

That good Judge, but learned lar-

gion, knew too much to attempt any such

feeble movement as a challenge to a Sen-

ator. Certain it is that the proprieties

of the occasion were not marred by the

more than anomalous proceeding of the

challenge of one Senator to another, es-

pecially before the defendant had ap-

peared.

Contemplating the possibility of a judg-

ment of acquittal, Butler thus informs the

Senate that it cannot declare such a judg-

ment without self-infliction:

Would not such a judgment be a con-

fession of the representatives of the peo-

ple in Congress assembled to frame laws

and to administer justice, that they have

violated the principles and terms of their

Constitution and of their own oaths?

Finally, Butler, cocking his eye on the

Chief Justice, discharges this stinging

epigram:

When *ex parte Garland* was decided,

the country was split emerging from a con-

flict of arms, the passions and excitement

were high, but from their way upon the

bench, and some of the judges, just from

the other side of the government, and

from the bench, brought with them the

passions of the moment, and a feeling of

dangerous ground. Time has not yet laid

its softening and correcting hand long

enough upon the passions of the moment

to enable us to comment upon it in this

presence.

Who remains? Nobody, except Butler

himself, and his associates in insolence.

What we may say of it, we must

admit that it is a "slow catch."

Three days will not be consumed in pre-

paring a relay of horses, when the vehicle,

which may prove a very judicious one to

our liberties, will again lumber on. When it

will reach its destination we shall not re-

spect its speed. But we may say of it,

that the trip will be a quick one.

To drop the figure, the managers have

closed their case, and the President's

counsel, by permission of the court, will

open their case next Thursday, to which

the court accordingly stands ad-

journing. In the mean time, the public

will have leisure to realize how utterly

unassisted the case of the managers is.

The only evidence with which they have

succeeded in underpinning their case at

all is General Thomas's idle remark that

he intended if necessary to call upon

General Grant to put Stanton out by

force, but they have introduced no evi-

dence whatever tending to connect the

President with this remark, and, when

General Thomas himself comes to testify

on the point, it will of course be to say

that the General made the declaration

on his own responsibility without a

shadow of authority from the Presi-

dent, whereby even this slender under-

pinning will be swept away, and the case

flat. The case looks better for the im-

peachment to-day than it is likely to be

to-morrow, and it looks better for them

to-day than the President's friends at

Washington are fairly exultant. We,

however, do not share in their exulta-

tion; inasmuch as it presupposes that

the Senate will be governed by considerations

of justice and of decency. For our own

part, we are not so patient of their in-

justice. The Senate has been the only

useful point from the first, and that is

not yet by any means cleared up. Party

spirit, we incline to think, is the biggest

evil on earth. And the Senate unques-

tionably is possessed with that devil. We

can only hope that it will successfully de-

feat its aspirations, as we have hoped from

the first; but our hope is certainly not ex-

cessive.

Having finished his life of old Ben

Wheat, Gen. Butler is now engaged in

writing for the Cincinnati *Gazette* a se-

ries of paragraphs of old man Grant's

letters to the New York *Ledger*, which he

calls "Grant Papers." He tells all that

old man Grant told, and a number of

things that old man Grant didn't think

of. Ulysses turns out to have been a

much greater prodigy in his infancy than

General Thomas himself comes to testify

to have been. The author of the "Grant

Papers" tells us that when the subject

of his history was but two years old he

exhibited the most astonishing instance

of courage and contempt for gossip and

of which we have any record. At that age

his father was carrying him along the

street in his arms one day,

when a general was stepped up to

him, and, placing it in the hands of

the prodigy, with his bit of finger on the

trigger, told him to bang away. Although

the supernatural had never seen a

pietist before—for such, we are told, was

the fact—he unhesitatingly pulled the

trigger, so far from being frightened

death, as any other infant would have

been, he neither wailed nor cried, nor

made a muscle, but simply cried in delight:

"Pick him up! Pick him up!" meaning, of

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## HEAVY EXPRESS ROBBERY.

Twenty Thousand Dollars Stolen

from the Merchants' Union

Express Company.

Another Express Messenger and a Sa-

loon Keeper the Supposed

Thieves.

They are Arrested and Held to

Bail the Sum of \$15,000

Each.

Chicago Tribune, this

One of the heaviest express robberies

that has ever occurred in this section of

country has just come to light, and the











